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## The Zoological Society of San Diego

May 14, 2008

Mr. Scott Couch

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Financial Assistance

1001 "I" Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Couch:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at the Zoological Society of San Diego, I am writing in support of the draft funding recommendation for the Proposition 50, Chapter 8, Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program, and to respectfully ask that the San Diego County Water Authority be awarded the full funding amount of \$25 million.

As a nonprofit conservation organization, the Zoological Society of San Diego strives to be a model for resource management in our local community and beyond. We recognize that conservation is most effective through powerful collaboration with likeminded institutions.

The proposed Proposition 50 funding will provide needed support for necessary implementation projects designed to ensure the long-term sustainability of San Diego's water supply, water quality, and natural resources. These projects will have a tremendous impact on San Diego's efforts to protect and improve water quality and reduce our dependence on imported water.

The California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board are pivotally placed to steward water conservation throughout the state and we are grateful for the opportunity to help promote the San Diego Water Authority programs for funding.

Sincerely,

Berit N. Durler

President

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